



June 2001

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FREE

Pac Bell Concert Noise Nightmare For Potrero Hill

By Judy Baston

Residents of Potrero Hill's northern slope were stunned mid-evening on Friday, May 18, when music from the Dave Matthews concert at PacBell Park blared into Hill homes nearly two miles away.

Southern Police Station Permit Officer Rose Meyer told the **View** that at least 30 complaints were received by police that evening as a result of the noise.

Angry and frustrated, some Hill residents also called the Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn., whose president, John DeCastro called another neighbor -- Police Commissioner Dennis Herrera.

Dogpatch resident Herrera immediately called Police Commander Rick Bruce, who quickly put together a meeting between representatives of the Police Dept., the Giants, and concert producer Bill Graham Presents. This session resulted in modifications that eased the sound problems for Hillers during the second night of the concert.

During this session, the Police checked the concert permits to see what limits they contained. The Police Code

under which the loudspeaker permit was issued for the event requires that the sound cannot extend more than 250 feet beyond the last participant in the event, Meyer said. This regulation was clearly violated, as sound was heard two miles from the event, the first concert to take place at PacBell Park.

Between the first and second concerts, technical adjustments were made. Representatives of Bill Graham Presents "did something with sound levels and speaker orientation," Giants Community Liaison Alfonso Felder told the **View**.

Even though the sound level had improved by the next night, Potrero Hill residents are now seeking guarantees that noise to the surrounding neighborhood will be limited at future PacBell events -- especially since a separate arena is being proposed for the area near Pacific Bell Park.

"Full venue" concerts at PacBell are limited to three per year, Felder said, although Meyer notes that there can be up to 20 non-baseball events yearly.

"There needs to be a committee that can work with the community to put a structure and guidelines in place so there



PacBell Park, at a distance of some two miles from Potrero Hill, as seen from the corner of De Haro and 20th Streets, on Potrero Hill.

Abigail Johnston photo

won't be a negative impact on Potrero Hill in the future," Herrera said.

Meyer indicated that Commander Rick Bruce of the Police Dept. wants to meet soon with PacBell Park Officials, Bill Graham Presents and members of the Mayor's office. She told the **View** that there were no plans to include neighborhood representatives in this preliminary session.

Any time the Chief of Police issues a loudspeaker permit, it must go to a public hearing, Meyer noted. "When

there is another event at PacBell Park, we'll make sure that the hearing notice is disseminated better," she said. "The Chief needs to hear both sides."

Hill residents with complaints about the May 18 noise from the PacBell Park concert may write a letter to Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr., Chief of Police Fred Lau, or Officer Rose Meyer, Permit Officer, Southern Police Station, 850 Bryant St., S.F., CA 94103, or send it to her FAX number at 553-9722.

Hill Businesses Deal with the Energy Crunch

By Ted Milikin

How is the current energy crisis affecting the Potrero Hill neighborhood? Do increases in utility rates faced by residential consumers have a deeper impact on local businesses?

Interviews with owners and managers of several Potrero Hill gathering spots: cafes, restaurants, bars and corner grocery stores has yielded varying information regarding their particular dilemma and what adjustments they've made.

On Connecticut at 18th Street, where Goat Hill Pizza has produced pizza and other fine foods over 25 years, co-owner Phil DeAndrade says "when the rates went up we began to use less electricity, like only running the dishwasher when full. But the rise in price of natural gas hit the hardest, so no longer are both ovens on all day."

At the ice cream emporium, The Daily Scoop at 18th and Missouri Streets, Rima Michael, who has owned this 26+ year old establishment, for the past four years, says the energy crunch, with the (now) infrequent rolling blackouts, "has not mattered too much."

And, she added, "careful regular maintenance of the freezers is worth

the expense for saving energy and providing ice cream at just the right temperature."

When the utility bill tripled at R&T Market at 19th and Vermont Streets, owner Tony Halim, in business 26 years, removed a freezer and two ice boxes, reduced lighting and saved hundreds of dollars by eliminating unnecessary usage of electricity.

The **View** asked several other local establishments the same questions and none stated that they anticipate raising prices in the immediate future unless there is another significant rise in utility rates.

As we look to our leaders, power brokers and brokers of power for relief, we are being presented some utilitarian and as yet underused options. California state bill AB695 is an appliance sales tax waiver initiative supported by the Electrical and Gas Industries Association that is now being reviewed by the State Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Locally Mark Leno, Member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, representing District 8, is spearheading a solar energy revenue bond that won't cost the taxpayer and will place solar collectors on the rooftops of all government buildings in San Francisco.

The board awaits review by the Board of Supervisor's Finance Committee and, according to a Leno aide, will reach the full board for a vote within a month.

Pacific Gas and Electric is offering to help with \$75 rebates on purchases of energy efficient household appliances like dishwashers and front load washing machines.

Judie Kloehn Lopez, owner of The Strand Service Appliances, local bargain rate retail appliance merchant, has continued the 65 year old family

business at 344 Connecticut St., and knows what she's talking about: "replacing a 20-year-old refrigerator could be a savings of 20 percent. The PG&E rebate offer is a win-win deal."

Beyond rebates, appliances like electronic ignition gas stoves will provide cleaner air, less heat and a much lower gas bill.

Lopez continued, "front load washing machines use half as much detergent, a third less water and energy and get your clothes cleaner."

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GETTING INVOLVED

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month (June 7) with members of the San Francisco Police Department to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the Community Facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments after the meeting. The agenda, following the captain's monthly report, will include: neighborhood safety projects, an auto safety presentation, a Naval Shipyard update, and a swimming pool update.

Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board meets the first Monday of the month (4 June) from 4-5 p.m. Meetings, held at the Center at 1050 Wisconsin St., are open to the public.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of the month (June 12) at 7 p.m., 950 Tennessee St. Neighborhood safety issues to be discussed with a representative from SAFE, a Neighborhood Watch program.

PHAB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of the month (June 12) at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th Streets.

Starr King Park Board of Directors meets the second Wednesday of each odd-numbered month (next meeting: July 11) at 7 p.m. in the Potrero Hill Library upstairs meeting room, 1616 20th St. The Saturday morning work parties at 9 a.m. will continue every month on the third Saturday (June 16). The park is located at Carolina and 23rd Streets.

Potrero Hill Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of the month (June 26). For details please call John de Castro @ 865-0669.

Potrero Hill Garden Club meets the last Sunday of the month (June 24) at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussions will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Please call 648-6740 for details.

PLAN (Potrero League of Active Neighbors) meets in executive session only. Anyone wishing to raise an issue for consideration by the board may phone Elizabeth at 826-6359.

—Winifred Mann



We Get Letters

Voice of Reason

Editor:

I think it would be nice to have the original names for our streets, however, I do not want my tax money to pay for something that is not a necessity and not a public good.

John Zerbe
Arkansas Street between
Solano and Butte

Don't Worry, Be Happy

Editor:

I would like to respond to the publication of my letter and the comments of Lester Zeidman concerning my letter in your May 2001 issue. First, I did not intend to sound irate at the changing of names of a few of the streets on Potrero Hill. I only feel exasperated at all the change around me. Each one of the last 16 years in the same house seems to create more chaos.

Lester says that it shouldn't be a problem to change the street names

since we did it once before. Of course, that was 106 years ago. In 1895, people didn't pay bills by mail and check, have accounts all over the country, investment accounts, magazines. Folks didn't correspond with dozens of relatives and friends around the country and world on a regular basis. A trip across town was a big event, not like today when a bunch of people may visit every week, some needing direction.

I simply feel that there is enough chaos surrounding us that having thousands of us spend thousands of hours corresponding with others to change our addresses is counterproductive. If Lester would consent to calling Pac Bell and PG & E customer service separately for each of us until they get it right, I might relent. The only advantage over a few years ago is that my email address and website won't need to be changed.

As I said before, I think it would be more productive to expend our energy on homelessness, housing, parking, etc.

Edward K. Lortz
19th Street

Letters to the Editor must be signed when received by the newspaper. If you wish to be "onymous" please say so, but we must receive letters with signatures and address.



"WE'RE PG&E...EVEN
OUR BILLS GIVE YOU
A SHOCK!"

MAY 29th — DICK MILLET DAY



The San Francisco Board of Supervisors honored a Potrero Hill resident by naming May 29, 2001 "Dick Millet Day." Millet, (above, right) a longtime member of the Potrero Boosters Assn., has been an activist on local issues, and most recently has been a volunteer in the City Hall office of Supervisor Sophie Maxwell. Seen above are Supervisors Mark Leno and Sophie Maxwell at the Boosters' 75th anniversary party, on May 29.

Joseph Scholler photo



™ Masthead design by Giacomo Patri

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UCSF Construction Work

Mission Bay Campus Shaping Up

Construction of the University of California San Francisco's (UCSF) new campus at Mission Bay begins with the first research building (Block 24) at 16th and Owens Streets, and construction of the community center (Block 21) scheduled to begin in July. The next research building at Block 19 begins construction in August.

In an effort to lessen parking impact on neighbors, UCSF has contracted with the operator of the Giants' parking lot "B", 4th Street (3rd Street). This will provide off-street parking for all construction-related vehicles including vehicles used by workers to commute to the site.

The only "offsite" Block 24 activity expected is the water service hookup to Owens Street, which will take place through this summer. UCSF estimates that there may be three half-day closures of the parking lane on 16th Street and three similar closures on Owens Street for the Block 24 project during the summer. Expected occupancy date is the Fall of 2002.

Moving construction materials onto building sites for the campus community center on Block 21 of the Mission Bay campus is currently scheduled to start in mid-July. This includes moving construction trailers to the site. Pile-driving can begin as early as late July and continue through mid-September.

UCSF will be bringing clean dirt from other construction sites and loading it on top of the existing soil. The weight of the new soil, combined with a series of drain tubes ("wicking"), will help to compact the soil before construction begins. This process helps to prevent cracking sidewalks and pavements years from now, caused by settling of the bay mud underneath. This work will continue through the summer.

Dirt will be moved within the site to areas east of the future 4th Street. Workers will also be doing soil amending on site to "make" topsoil for the landscape areas. The demolition of "Building

4" at 1730-1788 Third Street is underway. No new dirt will be imported to the site. The demolition may cause some materials that cannot be recycled to be hauled off-site.

A storm sewer will be installed in front of the campus community center site, and tied to the city system on 6th Street by the UCSF Mission Bay site coordinator's trailer. This is currently planned to begin during the August/September timeframe. Housekeeping activities continue throughout this period, including dust control, fence maintenance, and drainage maintenance.

All construction work will comply with air and water quality permit requirements and adhere to the San Francisco Noise Ordinance. While the Environmental Impact Report allows for construction activity to take place from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., the regular construction hours will be 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding certain holidays). "Noisy work," such as pile-driving and metal deck saw cutting, will be restricted to between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

As is often the case for major construction projects, exceptions to the regular hours may be necessary. These exceptions will be made only with the approval of the Construction Manager, and every effort will be made to notify nearby neighbors in advance. These extended hours are as follows: Monday through Friday until 8 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pile-driving and similarly noisy work will never take place on Sundays or after 6 p.m. weekdays; Saturday "noisy work" hours will be between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Anyone with questions, please contact UCSF Community Relations Manager Barbara Bagot-Lopez at 476-3206 or bblopez@cgr.ucsf.edu. Please also contact Bagot-Lopez if you would like to be added to the UCSF Mission Bay mailing list. For resolution of construction-related problems, please call Site Coordinator Lisa Henderson at 502-1993.

So Long, 'Little Red House'



It took only an hour May 18 to demolish the historic "little red house" at 19th and De Haro Streets. The next day the backhoe returned to remove the debris, leaving a vacant lot where the house once stood. (As the demolition began, a next door neighbor put a sign on his own house branding the destruction "Murder.") Even though the Board of Supervisors had voted April 30 against the developers' subdivision proposal, the Board of Appeals refused to grant a re-hearing on the demolition permit. Three of the five commissioners voted for the re-hearing, but Board regulations require four votes. Supporting a re-hearing on the demolition permit were Commissioners Carol Collum, Sabrina Saunders and Allam ElQuadah. Voting to uphold the demolition permit were Commission President Arnold Chin and Commissioner John McInerney.

- Judy Baston photo



It's your VIEW . . .

. . . and we want to know what YOU think about it!

Please take a moment to answer the following questions, cut out this questionnaire, and mail it to The Potrero View, 953 De Haro St., San Francisco CA 94107.

How do you receive the View?

- ☐ I only read it occasionally
☐ I pick it up from the some location every month
☐ I look for it at the beginning of the month
☐ I subscribe and receive it in the mail

How many people in your household read the View? _____

What do you read first?

- ☐ Front page stories
☐ Editorial/letters to the editor
☐ Birthdays
☐ Library news
☐ Cultural news
☐ Quickview/local events
☐ 10 Years Ago
☐ Classified ads

What new features/types of coverage would you like to see in the View?

Comments or suggestions _____

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 (optional, unless you want to volunteer!)

Do you make a point of patronizing our advertisers? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How do you think the View is produced?

- ☐ Paid staff
☐ By the Neighborhood House
☐ By volunteers from the neighborhood
☐ Combination of paid staff and volunteers

How long have you lived and/or worked on the Hill? _____

What other newspapers do you read?

Would you like to volunteer for the View?

- ☐ News reporting
☐ Feature writing
☐ Layout/Production
☐ Working with ads/advertisers
☐ Help with delivery

Route Changes for Muni Buses

To respond to demand for increased transit service, MUNI has worked with the Mayor's office, the Board of Supervisors, and numerous community groups to improve service within South of Market, while also making the area more accessible from other neighborhoods. The resultant changes, beginning June 9, will enhance MUNI service in and to South of Market, North Beach, the Miss-

ion Street corridor, and along Van Ness.

"I believe our riders will be pleased with the results, and I am also proud to state that all of the new lines serving the SoMa area are fully accessible to our disabled riders," says MUNI General Manager Michael Burns.

For accessible services information call 923-6164, TTY 351-3443.

MUNI Tix at Nabe

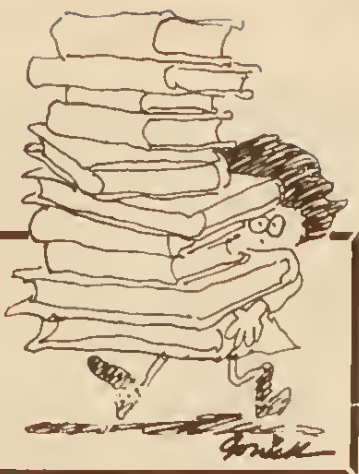
MUNI tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays during office hours, 10 am-4 pm

Senior MUNI: \$8.00
 Youth MUNI: \$8.00

For more information, call 826-8080

LIBRARY NEWS
POTRERO BRANCH
1616 20th St. • 695-6640

Closed Sunday and Monday
Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



COIL UP WITH A BOOK
—WIN PRIZES!

“Coil up with a book,” is the snaky theme of this year’s June 9-August 11 Summer Reading Club. Pry the 0-13-year-old child in your life off of the computer and spirit him or her to the library to register. Small prizes are awarded after each two-hour period of reading (or being read to for the pre-literate) and then a grand prize is awarded after eight hours. Children may participate at any library branch in San Francisco, but their reading time records are maintained and prizes awarded only at the branch where they register. Grand prizes include passes to museums and performances, tickets to a special library day at Pac Bell Park, books and small toys. It’s a delightful way to establish the habit of reading as a leisure pastime.

TEEN READ 2001

Teens ages 13-18 may sign up for the June 16-July 28 Teen Read 2001 program at the following branches: Bayview, Chinatown, Eureka Valley, Excelsior, Glen Park, Ingleside, Main, Marina, Mission, Parkside, Portola, Potrero, Sunset, Visitacion Valley, West Portal, and Western Addition. Participants must read three books and engage in three activities from a list that they will receive when they sign up. For each set of three books and three activities, prizes such as books, Borders Books & Music certificates, and UA movie passes will be awarded. Teens may sign up at only one branch on the list.

TWO SUMMER READING KICK-OFF
EVENTS BACK TO BACK!

On Saturday, June 9, 2001, 3 p.m. Gabino Palomares will perform songs from Mexico and Latin America, which have made their way to the U.S. and Europe. In his 25-year career, Palomares has recorded several CDs, including “Antologia Rebelde” (“Rebel Anthology”) with songs about the struggles of indigenous people, workers and students. His most recent CD is “Historia Cotidiana” (“Everyday Stories”). Palomares has performed with Joan Manuel Serrat, Silvio Rodriguez, Pablo Milanés, Mercedes Sosa, Oscar Chavez, Pete Seeger, Tania Libertad, Eugenia Leon and Leon Gieco. At 4 p.m., hear an assortment of some of the best loved and most exciting folk tales of Japan retold with warmth and humor by award-winning storyteller and Koto master, Elizabeth Falconer, as she accompanies herself with original compositions and effects on the classical Japanese koto.

Bring a friend, and sign your him or her up for Summer Reading Club so that you can have a summer reading buddy!

FIRST AMENDMENT VS. FILTERS

On Saturday, June 16, at 2 p.m., American Civil Liberties attorney, Mary Minow, will conduct a workshop to explore the practical and

philosophical implications of the Children’s Internet Protection Act on libraries. Under CIPA, libraries that do not institute Internet filtering lose their federally mandated e-rate for use of certain Internet sites. Internet filters purport to screen out sensitive materials which might be considered socially offensive. Studies reveal that they filter some sensitive materials and not others. For example, in attempting to filter what is “X”-rated material, information on Malcolm X might be unwittingly filtered out. In an effort to avoid the word “breast,” which some individuals may find offensive, information on breast cancer and breast-feeding is censored. CIPA/CHIPA is currently in force, but the San Francisco Public Library has received a temporary exemption, pending the outcome of legal action taken against this legislation by The American Library Association and the ACLU. The workshop is intended to familiarize you with the issues, the case law, and the actual experiences of librarians and teachers who work with children in filtered and non-filtered libraries. Parents, teachers, journalists, lawyers, writers, media specialists, artists, performing artists, political activists, working people, union members, teens, and many others in our community should find this workshop informative and interesting.

ROBERT MOSES TO PERFORM AND
TEACH

On Saturday, June 30, at 4 p.m., internationally famous African-American dancer/choreographer, Robert Moses, will perform his own works and lead a workshop for children in a Summer Reading Club program event at the Potrero Library. Mr. Moses has been awarded the Isadora Duncan Award, and has danced with ODC-San Francisco, as well as on television and in film. Children should wear clothing in which they can move comfortably.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

Infant-Toddler Lapsit takes place on Thurs., June 7, 14, and 28 at 10:30 a.m., and Story Time takes place on Tues., June 5, 12, and 26 at 7 p.m. The film, “The Magic Paint Brush,” will be shown on Wed., June 6 at 7 p.m.

JULY IS MAGAZINE MONTH

If you don’t see the magazine you want at the library, in July there is an opportunity to do something about that. If you’ve been meaning to express your appreciation to the library all year long, this is the time to do it. The library accepts funds from patrons who want to purchase a magazine the Potrero branch would not ordinarily purchase from the library’s selection list—or you can simply donate funds to help the library purchase a magazine we select. Here at Potrero, we normally take some of our book funds and utilize them to supplement our magazine purchases. We weren’t able to do that this year, and so magazine donations are doubly appreciated at this time.

TEN YEARS AGO
In The View

SUSPICIOUS GAS-FILLED DRUMS FOUND

Seven suspicious gasoline-filled drums were found in the middle of the night in an unfinished condominium complex at Carolina and Southern Heights. Police contacted the Fire Department Arson Squad and sealed off the area to traffic. Authorities also ordered the adjacent Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Child Development Center, a child-care facility, closed for the day. The owners of the property claimed to have no knowledge about the drums. Construction had been stopped for about a year, but was slated to begin that week. The attorney for the last firm to work on the property, O’Donoghue Construction, admitted that O’Donoghue had a key to the premises. The site had been a source of controversy for more than two decades, after an earlier fire and explosion finally destroyed the entire building, leaving a burned-out shell on the lot for a number of years. Plans to build a three-story condo on the site met with protests from many neighbors, but construction began, and was then halted for a year before the last incident.

POLICE REDISTRICTING FOR THE HILL STOPPED

The plan to divide Potrero Hill into two separate police districts, set to begin July 1, was reconsidered. It had been proposed to move the western boundary of Potrero Station territory from Highway 101 to DeHaro Street, with this portion of the Hill under Mission Station jurisdiction. Police cars coming from Mission would have had to take Army or Mariposa Streets to reach the hill, since many of the streets leading from the Mission District were blocked by San Francisco General Hospital or the freeway.

FILMING ON THE HILL A MIXED BLESSING

Approximately 350 agreements with film companies were issued citywide in the past year, with many of the film companies taking advantage of Potrero Hill’s sweeping views and dramatic hills serving as locations for such films as “Bullitt,” “They Call Me Mr. Tibbs,” “Choo-Choo and the Philly Flash,” “Burglar,” and “Pacific Heights,” as well as TV series such as “The Streets of San Francisco” and “Crazy Like a Fox.” Many residents complained about the disruption and the parking problems created.

AND TWENTY YEARS AGO... the Chiotras Market on Rhode Island Street had been open at the site since 1919... plans to install a mural on the outside wall of the branch library were being opposed by residents who were against the intrusion of a man-made decoration into a natural environment... a feature on haircuts on the Hill featured Flo Cimino, born on Potrero Hill and stylist on 20th Street since 1953, and Michael-Gary & Co., which had just opened in 1981.

—Bernie Gershater

COMING ATTRACTIONS:
BOOKS ON ORDER

- Forristal, Linda Joyce. “Mother Linda’s Bulgarian Rhapsody: the best of Balkan cuisine.” Slow-cooked stews and soups, with a vegetarian slant. Emphasis on folklore, culture and history.
- Badami, Anita Rau. “Hero’s Walk: a novel.” Sripathi Rao is self-centered and lives in a crumbling family manse in southern India. A daughter he hasn’t seen in a decade is killed, and her seven-year-old daughter must now come to India. Rich in sensuous, cinematic detail.
- Morrissey, Donna. “Kit’s Law.” This appealing first novel, set in coastal Newfoundland, met with widespread acclaim in its author’s native Canada. Focuses on the close familial relationship that binds the fatherless adolescent narrator, her mentally retarded mother and feisty grandmother.
- Murakami, Haruki. “The Sputnik Sweetheart.” Latest from popular Japanese author chronicles the frustrating relationship between an unnamed narrator and a headstrong young woman (who has an unrequited love for an older Korean woman). Irresistibly plaintive dramatization of the disconnects in human relationships.
- Siporin, Alan. “Fire’s Edge.” While attending a trial related to the racist murder of one of her students, a teacher attracts the unwanted attentions of several Oregon skinheads.

• Ong, Han. “Fixer Chao.” Playwright Ong puts feng shui to good use in this superb and scathingly satirical first novel that paints a picaresque, but fiercely damning portrait of a shallow and overprivileged Manhattan upperclass professional.

• Cunningham, Laura. “Sleeping Arrangements.” (Patron request.) Adopted by her two eccentric bachelor uncles after her mother’s death, the author describes growing up in an unorthodox, but happy Bronx household during the 1950s. Effective memoir delineates a real, if idiosyncratic, world with special slice of New York humor and integrity.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:
BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN:

- Van Draanen, Wendelin. “Sammy Keyes and the Hollywood Mummy”
- Demi. “The Donkey and the Rock”
- Rowling, J.K. “Quidditch through the Ages”
- Zeifert, Harriet. “Animal Music”
- Langley, Jonathan. “Missing!”

Toba Singer
Branch Librarian



THE VIEW AT THE LIBRARY



If you are searching for a story that ran in the Potrero View a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through December 1991. We will have more recent issues bound in the not-too-distant future, but in the meantime, check with the librarian who may have them on file.

92-Years Worth of Dedication

Three Hill Teachers Say "Farewell"

By Caroline Pollock Bilicki

Children entering school next fall at Daniel Webster Elementary School on Missouri Street won't know what they're missing.

Edna Holman, school para-professional, and Joanna De Tata and Catherine Chadwick, pre-K teacher and para-professional, respectively, will retire June 8, with the close of the school's 84th year.

Holman, a former Potrero Hill resident, has sent two children to Daniel Webster and has worked at the school since 1967, when she started out as a yard supervisor. When her two children began school, she volunteered as a teacher's aide, later working as a para-professional and noon yard supervisor.

Holman has mixed feelings about leaving Daniel Webster: "I have a good feeling and a bad feeling about leaving but after all this time, it's time for me to go.

"I'm just going to give me some 'Edna' time. I'm going to take care of Russell (Holman's son who was paralyzed after a shooting in 1967) and feel free. Just sit down and relax. But I will be coming back to check things out (at Daniel Webster)," Holman said.

Holman has been an active member of the Potrero Hill community, even after moving across town in 1987. "The Hill is my home regardless of where I stay," she said.

De Tata, the school's pre-K teacher, credits her success with a passion for child development and early learning. After being drawn to the child observation labs at her alma mater, Chico State University, De Tata chose to teach young children, beginning her career as a kindergarten teacher in Sacramento County in 1956.

"You can actually see development happen; it's not even subtle," De Tata said.

De Tata began teaching at Daniel Webster in 1969 when the school began its pre-K program, funded by monies from Title I, the Department of Education's supplemental financial assistance program to improve educational opportunities for children living in low-income areas. Daniel Webster's pre-K program is ad-

ministered by the Child Development Centers, San Francisco's version of the Headstart program.

De Tata's teaching philosophy is fairly simple: "Do the best for little kids as you can." Trained in part by Chico State, De Tata received additional training through expert workshops sponsored by the city's early pre-K program administrators.

"When children are beginning school, what we work on is having them feel really good about school so they'll like coming and develop language and give them experiences that they can grow on when it comes time for them to do more academic things," De Tata said.

"Cathy and I set up an environment so that the children can really investigate and do things and experiment and try out new stuff and feel good about what they're doing to be successful," she continued.

Cathy is Cathy Chadwick, a para-professional who joined the pre-K classroom in 1975. Most of the Daniel Webster's paras split time among classrooms but Chadwick has been dedicated to the pre-K program since coming to the school.

"Her responsibilities are supposed to be help but it doesn't work out that way. We really share what's happening. Oftentimes she sees something that I don't. She'll spot a need a child has before I do," De Tata pointed out. "She's also very supportive of parents ... she can talk to parents."

"It's been a hundred times easier working with a person who is that good, and for such a long time, than any other situation would have been. I really appreciate the support and friendship and commitment that she has given."

In the 32 years she's spent in her Daniel Webster classroom, most of the changes that De Tata has seen are environmental: a different building, older parents and the influence of television on language development.

She was also hired to develop and implement a better science program for the school. De Tata attended science workshops and was part of the team that developed science equipment kits now used in elementary school classrooms.



Teacher Edna Holman and students at the Daniel Webster School.

Ruth Passen photos

Joanna De Tata and Catherine Chadwick with their pre-K students.



Although De Tata is "really going to miss," teaching, she feels that this is the right time for retirement. "I'm getting (physically) tired. I still love doing this, but I know I am not giving 100 percent and I don't want to teach unless I can do that," De Tata said.

A resident of Belmont, De Tata has no set plans for her retirement. An avid reader of mysteries, De Tata hopes to have time for her family, travel, home improvement and her interest in quilting.



Captain Peter Firth, surrounded by friends Tom Berriman and Joanne Firth at the airport in Elko, Nev.

Richard Anderson photo

Flyer Turns 60—Ejected From Job

After ten years as pilot with the Casino Express Airlines (CEA), Peter Firth retired from his flying career because of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rule that says that he must retire from flying commercial planes at age 60. He turned 60 on May 25.

A San Francisco native, Firth settled on Potrero Hill after a stint with the Peace Corps in Brazil from 1966-68. Other Corps friends followed his lead, moved to the Hill and established a small, closeknit community, which exists to this day.

He spent many years as a commercial pilot and a flight instructor out of Oakland before accepting the CEA job.

His last flying job for CEA was April 27, when he flew a chartered plane from the San Jose airport to Elko, Nev. This flight took passengers from the West Coast to a week-end of gambling in Elko and Reno.

When Firth deplaned (before passengers and crew), his company helped him, family and friends celebrate the occasion by hosting a party in the CEA lounge.

The occasion was duly noted by the Elko Fire Dept. which directed two water spray "arcs" over the plane after Firth had taxied to a stop at the company's terminal in Elko. A photo of that event was featured on the front page of the Free Press (Elko, Nev.).

With 16,000 hours of commercial flying time under his belt, Firth now looks forward to administrative and training work with CEA in Elko, where he and his wife, Twainhart, now maintain a residence.

Potrero Hill residents Tom Berriman and Joanne Firth flew that last trip with their friend, and were inspired to write a poem - which ran for so many pages, they were encouraged to not read it at Peter's party.

A "Bridge of Books" for Kids

Local Group Donates 5,000 Books

By David Matsuda

Trisha McCarthy, founder and Executive Director of the non-profit "Bridge of Books Foundation" (BBF), loves books and the dreams that reading inspires. As a young girl, growing up in New Jersey, she read under the covers with a flashlight, talked books with her friends at pajama parties, and delighted in as she puts it, how "a book, like a bridge, can take a child to new places."

McCarthy eventually made her way to the West Coast, where she completed a psychology degree at University of Southern California, and a law degree at University of San Francisco. After eight years as a litigator, with long hours and little reward for the soul, McCarthy felt unfulfilled, and so she made plans to cut back her law practice and work as a volunteer.

When Carol Wise, a longtime friend, who is now on the BBF Board of Directors, said that she volunteered at a homeless shelter where the children had no books to read, McCarthy was shocked. Her shock turned into determination for change, when she learned through an informal survey she conducted, that many children's organizations have not only a book shortage, but no titles that speak to the diverse backgrounds and experiences of many inner city youth.

With the help of her husband Steve Akerly, an intellectual property lawyer, McCarthy recruited board members and founded BBF on June 15, 2000. The BBF mission is to be a clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of books to underserved children. "There is no charge for BBF books, so families with low incomes won't have to choose between books and food. Our goal," she

explains, "is to make sure that access to books is not a privilege or a luxury." The average child who reads BBF books in the classroom, or at home, lives in the inner city, and is African American, or a refugee from the conflict zones in Eastern Europe, Southeast Asia, and/or the South Pacific.

Cash donations are welcome, and used to buy African- and Asian-American titles from Marcus Books. If, like Charles Schwab and Merrill Lynch, a company is interested in holding a book drive, BBF provides the fliers, barrels, and coordination efforts.

Dome Construction donates office and storage space, and the Morrison and Foerster Foundation has given BBF it's first grant. All told, 91 percent of these proceeds have gone directly to purchase books for Potrero Hill Headstart, the Potrero Hill Neighborhood

House, the Florence Crittendon Home for Pregnant Teens, and the Tenderloin Community Center.

To date, BBF has donated over 4,500 books. By June 15, 2001, BBF's one year anniversary, McCarthy and her board will have donated 5,000 books to the neediest groups in our communities.

As for the future, BBF may expand their services to include book clubs, after-school programs and literacy campaigns. Ambitious? Not for someone like McCarthy who has always shared the joy of reading with others. As Trisha McCarthy will tell you, when you see her around "the Hill," books inspire dreams, and you need dreams. So there's something to come true.

For more information, or to make a donation, call The Bridge of Books Foundation at (415) 550-6340.



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Lowfat Yogurt
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All Varieties
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Fat Free Yogurt
8 oz. -reg 99¢ **69¢**

Fish Bros.
Salmon Lox
3 oz. -reg 4.99 **2 for \$7.00**

Tejava
Unsweetened Tea
Liter -reg 1.69 +CRV **99¢**

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THE MARSH PRESENTS "Mike Duvall and Friends," at the Marsh's Mock café, Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m., through June 30. Mike does stories and jokes about power tools, elves, astrology, the healing power of goldfish, and a rebuttal to "The Vagina Monologues". Tickets are \$7 at the door.



PARENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (PFLAG) welcomes everyone to the PFLAG Support Group, Sunday, June 10, 2 to 4 p.m. This will be followed by a program featuring Nancy Otto, the Friedman Education Project Director of ACLU of Northern California., at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. at Market. For information call 921-8850.

"BEHIND THE SCREEN: MAKING MOTION PICTURES AND TELEVISION" has been extended through August 26, at the Exploratorium. Play with sound effects, dialogue, movie music, makeup and computer animation. The Exploratorium is located inside the Palace of Fine Arts. The exhibit is free with museum admission, \$9 adults, \$7 students and seniors, \$5 for youth and people with disabilities, \$2.50 for children 3-5, free to children under 3. For more information call 415-EXP-LORE.

47th ANNUAL NORTH BEACH FESTIVAL will be held Saturday, June 16, and Sunday, June 17, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., in Washington Square Park, Upper Grant Avenue, and adjacent blocks of North Beach. A celebration of San Francisco's Little Italy and home of the Beat Generation. Music, food, arts and crafts, dancing, street chalk art competition, classical concerts, excerpt cast appearances from "Rent," "Stomp," and "Beach Blanket Babylon," from noon to 1 p.m. each day.

OTHER LIBRARY PROGRAMS "Angel Island Revisited", a day-long event devoted to the identity secrets and lives of Chinese immigrants detained and interrogated in the United States, including a multi-media presentation on the Chinese Exclusion era; a family history workshop; a reading and discussion by Bill Wong, author of the book "Yellow Journalist," and a film revealing the hidden story of Chinese American men and women who were hunted down, jailed, and targeted for deportation during the Cold War hysteria of the 1950s and 1960s. Saturday June 2, in the main Library, 600 Larkin St.

LARGE SCREEN VIDEO IN THE KORET AUDITORIUM, Thursday, June 7, 12 noon, a showing of "Victim," the groundbreaking thriller about an attorney who goes after a ring of blackmailers targeting gay men. Starring Dirk Bogarde, the film was made when homosexuality was still a crime in England.

WELCOME INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS to the Bay Area. Open your home to high school and college students who study English and work in internships in San Francisco and Menlo Park. Intrax pays host families a monthly stipend. For more information call toll-free 866-467-8443.

THE PRESIDIO TRUST CELEBRATES San Francisco's 225th birthday with commemorative events during the last week of June. All events are free and open to the public. For more information call 561-5300.

SING-ALONG "WIZARD OF OZ," a screening of America's favorite film. Win prizes in the costume contest, see a performance of "The Jitterbug," which had been cut from the original film, and sing "Over the Rainbow" with the SF Gay Men's Chorus, Saturday, June 2, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the Koret Auditorium of the Main Library.

"READING THE CARDS," an exhibition of unique, hand-crafted, ingeniously structured playing cards, will open at the San Francisco Center for the Book, on Friday, June 8, with a reception from 6-8 p.m. The exhibition will continue through August 24 at 300 DeHaro St. Admission is free. Gallery hours Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m.

STERN GROVE FESTIVAL of free summer concerts. Admission is free every Sunday from June 17 through August 19. On June 17, the program features blues and jazz legend Dr. John, with Robert Walter's 20th Congress, funky blend of soul-jazz and dance music as the opening act. On June 24, six-time Grammy winner Latin jazz pianist Eddie Palmieri will star, with "Plena Libre," a 12-member band from Puerto Rico, opening the show. All concerts begin at 2 p.m. in Sigmund Stern Grove, 19th Avenue at Sloat Boulevard. Arrive early, and bring low beach chairs or ground covers.

SAN FRANCISCO THEN ... AND NOW is a walking tour through San Francisco's oldest neighborhoods. Reservations can be made by phone, 317-8687, or online at www.sfhistorytour.com.

THE DIAMOND SENIOR CENTER, located at 117 Diamond St., between 18th and 19th, will hold a Birthday Luncheon and Dance on Monday, June 11. For luncheon reservations call 863-3507. Lunch is served at noon, and the suggested donation is \$1.25. The dance, for which there is no charge, will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Dance music is provided by Walt and Terri Traverso. For more information call 863-3507.

AUTOMATISM PRESS WILL HOST a reading from the new issue of "Morbid Curiosity" magazine at Borderland Books, 866 Valencia St., between 19th and 20th, Saturday, June 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. "Morbid Curiosity" focuses on true first-person encounters with the unsavory, unwise, unorthodox, and unusual - all the dark elements that make life truly worth living. Among the readers will be Potrero Hill resident Claudius Reich. For more information call 841-1429.

SAN FRANCISCO LEAGUE OF URBAN GARDENERS (SLUG) invites you to celebrate the Summer Solstice at the Garden for the Environment (GFE), 7th Avenue at Lawton St., June 16, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. SLUG will provide barbecue and garden greens. Please bring desserts and salads as well as your own plates and utensils. A \$5 donation will be appreciated. For information call 285-7584.

SFJAZZ FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES, at Transamerica Redwood Park, 600 Montgomery St., every Friday from noon to 1 p.m., June 8 through August 24.

AIDS/HCV NIGHTLINE provides telephone emotional support, crisis counseling and information for anyone with HIV or Hep.C concerns. By volunteering a few evening or nighttime hours each month you can help others through a time of difficulty. Call now-a training class starts soon-984-1902, day or night.

GRAFFITI ART FOR TEENS. New York City artist Spacecraft will teach graffiti style art to ages 13-18, at the Bayview Branch Library, 5075 Third St., 5 to 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, June 7. All programs at the Library are free.

STELLA PATRI EXHIBIT. The Hand Bookbinders of California present a memorial exhibit honoring Stella Patri, who died in April at the age of 104. Ms. Patri, a survivor of the 1906 earthquake, is best remembered as a bookbinder and conservator. The exhibit is in the Main Library, Book Arts and Special Collections Center. For more information call 557-4560.

IN MEMORIAM

LINN WRESZIN SWAIM
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Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107
(415) 826-8080

Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

ONGOING MEETINGS:

Al-anonThursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics AnonymousMondays, 8:00 pm
Narcotics AnonymousWednesdays, 8:00 pm
Omega Boys ClubTuesdays, 7:30 pm
Employment WorkshopsFridays, 10:00 am
Board of Directors Meetings are held monthly on the Third Monday

FACILITIES:

Auditorium for theater presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions
Bulletin Board with events and employment listings
Gymnasium and recreational space
Meeting space rental available for use by the community
All services and activities are FREE

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is wheelchair accessible. If you have the need for the services of a certified American Sign Language interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format, please contact

415 826-8080 at least one week prior to event

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is a non-profit agency serving the most needy of the community with emphasis on youth and education

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Recycle Those Batteries!

Ask San Francisco residents if they recycle, and odds are they will say "yes." The city is full of recyclers, and many of them have a devotion for the art of reuse that goes far beyond sorting out their glass and plastic, or bundling newspapers for pickup on trash day.

But ask those same people if they recycle household batteries, and you'll likely be met with a blank stare. Relatively few people are even aware that those little gizmos that power your portable CD player, your cell phone, your emergency flashlight, even your watch — can be recycled.

Darcy Brown hadn't given much thought to battery recycling either, until she spotted an old battery on a San Francisco street.

"I saw this battery lying in a pool of water getting rusty and corroded, and I thought this can't be good — people throw these things in the trash. That's got to leach in the ground and into the water system."

Brown, who is the Commercial Outreach Coordinator for the city's Solid Waste Management Program, was in the position to be able to do something about the problem. She knew that Walgreen's already sponsored a city disposal program for used hypodermic needles. Why not a similar drop-bin for household batteries?

A number of San Francisco businesses, including Radio Shack and Cole Hardware, already accept used rechargeable and alkaline batteries, the two types of batteries that are most easily recycled. But Darcy Brown said the key to her idea was that the program would be expanded to include more convenient outlets. That includes alkaline and zinc-carbon batteries, as well as rechargeable batteries, and the little button batteries used in cameras and watches.

In fact, each American household throws away an estimated two pounds of batteries a year — in the Bay Area that's four and a half million pounds of

batteries entering the waste stream annually. Household batteries account for most of the mercury in our trash, and heavy metals like cadmium, contained in batteries, can then permeate the groundwater. Mercury and mercury compounds in batteries are highly toxic to people, wildlife, and the environment. Health risks associated with mercury include kidney damage and genetic, neurological, and psychological disorders. Cadmium is a confirmed human carcinogen, and is poisonous when ingested or inhaled.

By recycling batteries, environmentally conscious San Franciscans can prevent all of these harmful substances from getting into our environment.

Paul Horcher, Director of the San Francisco Solid Waste Management Program, says the program is off to a quick start. "People were bringing [batteries] in even before the bins were in place, storing them in bags to take in," he said. In the first month, with minimal publicity, the program has collected three containers full of household batteries nearly 200 pounds of batteries and their toxic components, that will be recycled instead of going to the dump.

The battery recycling containers are now available at 47 Walgreens stores throughout the city. For Brown, asking Walgreens to partner with the city in the program was a perfect fit.

"I thought, everybody knows where their Walgreens is, how easy is that?" Brown said. "And it's behavior modification also. Taking one more step for taking responsibility for their footprint on the earth."

The batteries are disposed of as hazardous materials, drained of toxic chemicals, and their component metals are melted and recycled.

Recyclers around the Bay Area say they will take advantage.

Maria Baird
S.F. Solid Waste Mgmt. Program

The Bush Budget

No Increase in HIV/AIDS Funding = A Major Cut

Despite an estimated 40,000 new HIV cases in 2002, President George W. Bush is the first U.S. President since the inception of the Ryan White CARE Act not to recommend an increase for the life saving AIDS care and treatment program in his annual budget request to Congress.

The San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium (SFCCC) is joining with colleagues in communities across the country to urge our representatives in Congress to provide a total of \$2.11 billion — an increase of \$307 million — for the CARE Act in the FY 2002 federal budget. This total includes a \$50 million increase for Title I, which funds programs in the 51 cities hardest hit by AIDS, and a \$20 million increase for Title III, which funds early intervention and ongoing comprehensive HIV medical services on an out-patient basis to more than 115,000 persons with HIV/AIDS per year.

"San Francisco depends on CARE Act funds to provide primary medical care, prescription drugs and basic support services to people with HIV and AIDS," says John Gressman, President and CEO of the SFCCC. "The number of people who turn to us every year for help continues to grow and the President needs to

recognize that flat funding translates to a cut for those of us on the frontlines."

The Ryan White CARE Act is a federal program that funds local programs that help care for low-income, uninsured or underinsured persons living with HIV or AIDS. The CARE Act funds such things as medical care, HIV and AIDS drugs, housing and food. These services mean the difference between life and death for thousands of people with HIV and AIDS. In 2000, the CARE Act provided \$1.8 billion to support HIV and AIDS services in all 50 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico.

On June 5, 1981, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported the first five cases of the diseases later named AIDS. "President Bush's actions are especially frustrating after 20 years of working to build a network of care in our community," said Gressman. "As we mark this somber milestone, the nation should redouble its efforts to helping those living with HIV and not pretend as though the problem is going away."

More information about CARE Act funding and contacting members of Congress is available at www.info@CAEAR.org

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Income verification, verification of child's birth, child's Medical card
Medical/Immunization Records,
Tuberculosis Test Results
Social Security cards for Parent & Child
(Full Day Programs require verification of work or training/school.)

An Evening of Hip Hop at Center for the Arts

At the start of the 21st century, hip-hop is a truly world-wide cultural phenomenon, playing a largely underrecognized role in articulating grassroots community ideals. As part of the "Hip-Hop Nation" Centerfest, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts presents this burgeoning art form in a weekend run of "Take It to the Stage: An Evening of Hip-Hop Theater." The show brings together uncompromising, hilarious, and thought-provoking solo performances by internationally acclaimed artists Will Power, Sarah Jones, Jonzi D, and Danny Hoch, a globally acclaimed actor, writer, and performer who has enjoyed sold-out runs of solo shows in more than 50 cities. Co-curated by Will Power and Assistant Performing Arts Curator Linda Lucero, "Take It to the Stage" performances are held in the Yerba Buena Theater (Mission & Third Sts.) on Friday and Saturday, June 29 and 30 at 8pm, and Sunday, July 1 at 7pm. Tickets are \$28, \$15 for students and seniors with ID, and \$24 for Center Members.

For tickets and information, call 415-978-ARTS or go to www.YerbaBuenaArts.org.

Last Planet Theatre Production of "The Dying Game" at The Nabe

Last Planet Theatre presents the Bay Area premiere of Craig Lucas's ("Prelude to a Kiss") "The Dying Gaul" at the Potrero Hill Playhouse (953 DeHaro St.). The AIDS play critics are calling "the ANTI-Angels in America", Lucas's latest work is about a screenwriter who – after losing his lover to AIDS – decides that murder might be the surest path to enlightenment. "The Dying Gaul" opens on Saturday, June 8 at 8pm and runs through June 30. Show times are Thursdays-Saturdays at 8pm. Opening Night tickets are \$20 and \$12-15 for the regular run. Call 510-845-2687 for box office information.

"Texas" Premieres at The Thick House

REVOLUTION THEATER COMPANY presents the premiere of Judy Soo Hoo's award-winning play, "Texas," a comic Asian-American view of the American West. Previews are June 14-15. Opening night is June 16, and the show runs through July 8, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 7pm, and Mondays at 8pm, at the Thick House, 1695 18th St., at Carolina. Thursday and Sunday tickets are \$15, Friday and Saturday tickets are \$18, Monday and preview are pay-what-you-can. For tickets call 401-8081.



Performing Arts Roundup

Frameline Festival Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Hundreds of films and videos and a landmark national media conference will highlight Frameline's celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Running June 14-24, this year's edition of the world's premiere showcase for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender cinema will not only screen new works from around the world, it will honor Frameline's 25 years at the forefront of independent film and queer media arts.

The Festival opens at the Castro Theatre on Thursday, June 14 at 7:30pm with "Gaudi Afternoon," a tale of discovery by Susan Seidelman, starring Judy Davis, Lili Taylor, Juliette Lewis and Oscar winner Marcia Gay Harden ("Pollock"). The second Gala Opening Night film, "Metrosexuality," the fabulous new TV series from England's Channel Four, premieres on Thursday, June 14 at 8:30pm at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater (3rd & Howard Sts.).

Highlights of this year's festival include: "Adventures of Felix," a French comedy by Oliver Ducastel and Jacques Martineau which chronicles a North African man's journey through France to find the father he has never met; New York drama "Iron Ladies," starring Lili Taylor, Courtney Love, Spalding Gray and Sundance favorites, "Trembling Before G-D," a documentary investigation into the hidden lives of gay Orthodox Jews by Sandi DuBowski; Tom Shepard's "Scout's Honor," which chronicles the grassroots campaign to overturn the anti-gay policies of the Boy Scouts of America; and the wickedly funny "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," starring, directed and adapted by John Cameron Mitchell from his critically acclaimed off-Broadway hit musical.

Also featured in this year's festival are recent films by Hill residents Jack Walsh and Maria Breaux. "Hope Along the Wind: The Story of Harry Hay," a feature length documentary produced by Jack Walsh and directed by Eric Slade, screens at the Castro Theatre on Friday, June 22. This much anticipated documentary takes a look at the fascinating and extraordinary life of Harry Hay – labor organizer, Marxist teacher, and founding member of the Mattachine Society, one of the first gay rights organizations in the country. Harry's story provides a



Jack Walsh directing his film crew on location at the 2000 Gay Pride Parade. Lindsay Sablosky photo

chronicle of the gay rights movement, as well as a history of California in the 20th century.

"I'd Rather Be...Gone," a feature-length digital film by director Maria Breaux, is a compelling and timely journey that portrays the challenges and successes of three very different yet intricately connected women. Shot on an ultra-low budget, Breaux's first feature length film is an inspiring example of what a filmmaker can achieve in spite of limited financial resources (Friday, 6/22, Victoria Theatre, 16th St at Mission).

To mark a quarter century of queer cinema, Frameline will present "Persistent Vision," a landmark queer media conference running June 17-20 at the Center for the Arts. Academics, theorists, film and video makers, festival programmers and film buffs will come together for four days of panel discussions, round tables, workshops and keynote addresses on the state of queer film and video around the world: where it has been, where it is now, and where it is going. Many of the media makers attending the festival will bring an exciting international dialogue to the conference by joining "Persistent Vision" as presenters and participants.

For Festival information please call Frameline at 415-703-8650 or visit www.frameline.org.

"Sax and the Single Dyke" at Theatre Rhinoceros

Margery Kreitman's newest comedy, "Sax And the Single Dyke," will open June 7 at 8pm at Theatre Rhinoceros in San Francisco. The show, a screwball comedy, is set in contemporary San Francisco where two women, roommates and close friends, suddenly are forced to reconsider the true implications of their friendship when an ex-husband appears and a personals-ad date takes all three of them over the top. Performances are Thursdays-Sundays at 8pm through July 1. For tickets and information, call 415-861-5079.

Trio Mio Comes to Climate Theatre

Climate Theatre/Solo Mio/Writers Who Act presents Trio Mio, a series of three solo performances at three separate site-specific venues. The first, "The Submarine Stories," will open May 21 at 8pm at the Maritime Hall Sailor's Saloon, at 450 Harrison (at 1st St.). Featuring Ed Holmes, "The Submarine Stories" continues Monday-Wednesdays through May 30. The second show, "The Warrior and the Crone, featuring Blaedfyr Kristin Spence opens on May 30th, 8pm at Edinburgh Castle Pub Theatre at 950 Geary. Tickets for both shows are \$12-\$15, sliding scale. The final performances, with acclaimed director and performer Bob Emst in "The John" opens on June 18, at the Maritime Hall Basement Bathroom and continues Mondays-Wednesdays through June 27. Seating is very limited and all tickets will be \$20. For reservations and information for all performances call 415-978-2345.

SF Black Film Festival Comes to Delancy Street Theatre

The San Francisco Black Film Festival unveils an inspiring selection of films June 14-17 at the Delancey Street Theater. The diverse array of cutting-edge films and videos from the United States, Africa, France and Cuba highlights the uniqueness of the African-American experience. The four-day extravaganza kicks off Thursday, June 14 with the opening night screening and party. Highlights include the much-heralded screening of Jordan Walker-Pearlman's "The Visit," a heart-warming story of one man's triumphant journey from despair to love and finally, redemption. The star-studded cast includes Hill Harper, Phylicia Rashad, Marla Gibbs, Billy Dee Williams and Rae Dawn Chong.

On Friday, June 15, the Melvin Van Peebles Maverick Award will be presented to up-and-coming filmmaker Joy Phillips, whose short "Kickin Chicken" is a satire about one woman's battle against her fried chicken addiction. Friday's feature presentation is S. Leigh Savidge's "Welcome to Death Row," a controversial chronicle of the rise and fall of Death Row Records.

Tickets are available by calling 1-800-965-4827. For more info, call 415-346-0199.

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Connecticut Street — The Wall Street of the West?

By Lester Zeidman

In October, a little known proposal to extend Connecticut Street to Montgomery Street passed the Board of Supervisors by a vote of 8 to 3. Proponents of the extension were so pleased that there was literally stamping in the lobby when the voting result was announced.

Certainly the traffic headaches one encounters trying to get from Potrero Hill to the Financial District will be greatly alleviated by this achievement. And when you consider the property value of a parcel of land on Montgomery Street — well, there are some happy people over on Connecticut Street.

But the proposal did not pass without controversy. A shadowy group known as "The Ring" was accused of behind-the-scenes dealing, exchanging money for votes. Hired men forged signatures on circulated petitions favoring the extension. Even the supervisor representing the South of Market District voted in favor of the extension against the wishes of his constituency.

It happened. It really happened — in this proposal to make Connecticut Street the Wall Street of The West! It happened on October 28, 1867. But there were some problems. Apparently those signatures on the petition were hustled up in the wharves and saloons and some who signed were not even property owners. And in opposition there were some property owners between Montgomery Street and Connecticut Street who had some leverage of their own. One of those property owners was James Lick, once known as San Francisco's "first richest citizen."

In a rare pre-earthquake document discovered by Peter Linenthal of the Potrero Hill Archive Project, James Lick and other prominent landowners agree to pay a committee of lobbyists to help defray the expenses incurred in preventing the extension of Mont-

gomery and Connecticut Streets. Rare because very few legal documents exist from before the 1906 earthquake and rarer still is the original signature of James Lick.

The committee did not come cheap as over \$3,200 was paid "in gold coin of the United States." In March 1868, when the agreement was signed it apparently was money well spent.

Connecticut Street, if extended in a straight line north, does in fact match up quite nicely with Montgomery Street. But when you put a petition gleaned from the wharves and saloons of post Civil War San Francisco up against the gold coin of prominent San Franciscan property owners, some might say that it wasn't much of a fight after all.

James Lick came to San Francisco in 1848 with \$30,000 in Peruvian gold doubloons earned building pianos in South America. By 1868, everyone was tired of James continually trying to pass those damn doubloons everywhere which is why the committee specified payment in good ol' US of A gold coin..

The "Extensionists," as they were called, did actually get their way. Montgomery Street was extended but only for two blocks. We now know it as New Montgomery Street. It was Second Street and the "2nd Street Cut" that really caused controversy as it severed Rincon Hill from Howard to Brannan Street

Fraudulent petitions, vote buying, supervisors ignoring their constituents — sounds like San Francisco circa 2001 doesn't it? That's right, history marches on and repeats itself on a regular basis. But restoring street names has never been done before. Yes, the steamroller of history continues and we'll all be marching (stamping?) down Napa Street real soon. Of course, my loyal opponents should note that we will be forming a committee real soon. Visa, Mastercard and Peruvian gold doubloons accepted.

In order to defray the expenses of opposing the proposed extension of Montgomery and Connecticut Streets under the resolution passed by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco on the 28th day of October A.D. 1867, we the undersigned, property owners, interested in the defeat of said proposed extension hereby agree to pay to the committee composed of Messrs. Joseph A. Donohoe, C. F. Nebius, Theodore S. Schell and Francis Cunningham

in gold coin of the United States the several sums set opposite our names respectively, either in cash, or contingent, as there expressed; the several amounts marked contingent, to be paid upon the defeat of said proposed extension by final judgment of a competent court or by legislative action.

San Francisco March 1868

	Cash	Contingent
<i>James Lick per D.</i>	\$50.	250
<i>H. J. ...</i>	100	100 Paid
<i>Mary E. Read per J. H. ...</i>		\$100 Paid
<i>Cash per D. ...</i>		\$25.

James Lick *J. H. ...*

Back in the old days, it wasn't enough to just complain to your supervisor if you wanted something fixed. Hiring a committee and ponying up some gold coin worked wonders. Certainly it is reassuring that in this enlightened day and age, these practices are virtually non-existent. — L.Z.

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Phase One:
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18th Street becomes Solano Street
19th Street becomes Butte Street
20th Street becomes Napa Street

Phase Two:
Restore Nebraska Street between Napa and Solano Streets.

Phase Three:
Restore 21st Street through 26th Street. Names to be determined. Original names include Sierra, Humboldt, Nevada, Sonoma, Yolo and Yuba. Names available include Alpine & Colusa (Army).

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- 1)** There are 1000 children at 3 Potrero Hill schools within a mile and a half of the power plant.
- 2)** Almost 2 out of every 10 children in Bayview Hunters Point schools have asthma.
- 3)** Over 80,000 people live within a 3 mile-radius of the power plant. San Francisco's Planning Department concluded our area had the greatest increase in new housing in the city.
- 4)** The plant expansion would add 110 tons of dangerous air emissions each year for the next 40 years. Our community already has two existing power plants and suffers from high levels of pollution from nearby industries, diesel trucks, buses, and freeways.
- 5)** With the expansion, the Potrero Power Plant would have a peak capacity of 900 megawatts. The City has concluded, in terms of power plant size and proximity to dense urban population, the State has no direct comparable power plants.
- 6)** Mirant Corporation is being sued by the City and the State for unfair business practices.



EVENTS:

- Monday & Tuesday, June 11-12, 1pm-9pm Public Comments on State preliminary decision at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House at 953 DeHaro St.
- Tuesday, June 12, 4:30pm Community Rally and March meet at Esprit Park at 800 Minnesota St.
- Monday & Tuesday, June 18-19, 1pm-9pm Public Comments on State preliminary decision at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House at 953 DeHaro St.

GROUPS OPPOSED TO EXPANSION OF POTRERO POWER PLANT:

Assemblywoman Carole Migden • Dogpatch Neighborhood Association • Northwest Bernal Neighbors Association • Precita Valley Neighbors Association • Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) • SF Bayview • Bayview Hunters Point Project Area Committee and its Health and Environment Committee • Yes We Can Urban Asthma Partnership • Coalition for Lower Utility Bills (CLUB) • Southeast Alliance for Environment Justice (SAEJ) *(with conditions)* • Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association *(with conditions)*

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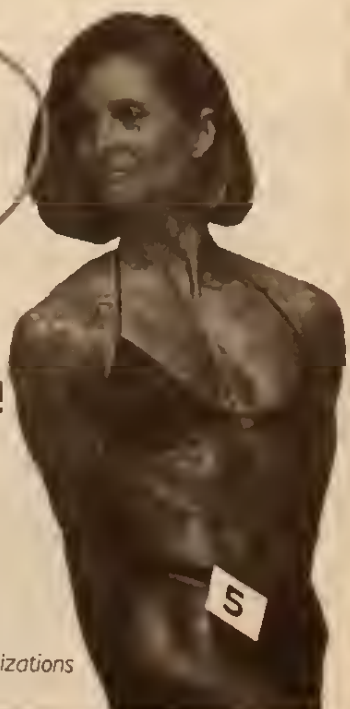
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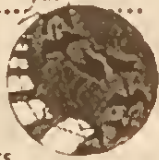


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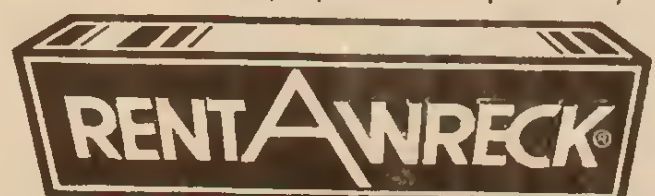
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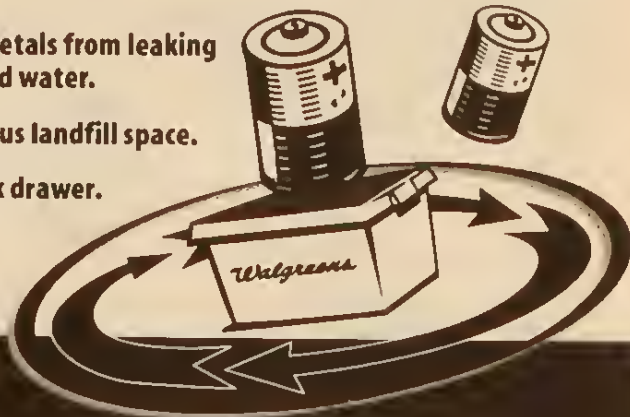
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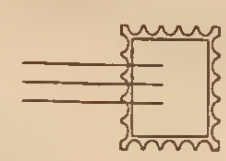


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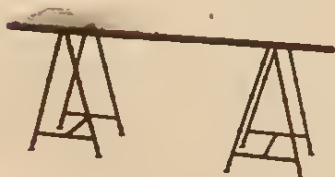


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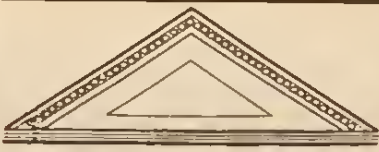
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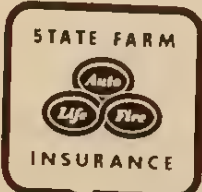
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